



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	JCB-200104230
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Joyce Butler
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5294
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	regulatory@mvk02.usace.army.mil
DATE:	December 4, 2003
EXPIRATION DATE:	December 24, 2003

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services are considering an application for a Department of the Army permit and State water quality certification for the work described herein. A water quality certification is required in accordance with statutory authority contained in the LRS 30:2074 A(3) and provisions of the Clean Water Act. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, ATTN: CEMVK-OD-F, at the above address and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, Post Office Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has a copy of the application on file in their office in Baton Rouge and may be inspected at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Copies may be obtained from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality upon payment of cost of printing. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will make a final decision on the water quality certification pertaining to this application within 30 days after expiration of this notice.

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant:

Journal, LLC
Post Office Box 4043
Monroe, Louisiana 71211

Name of Agent:

Hydrik Wetlands Consultants
102 East Thomas Street, Suite 1
Hammond, Louisiana 70403

Location of Work: Sections 19 and 49, T18N-R4E, latitude 32°32'5.7288", longitude 92°6'2.5258", within the Ouachita River drainage basin, Ouachita Parish, in Monroe, Louisiana.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The applicant is applying for an after-the-fact Department of the Army permit to mechanically clear and fill wetlands for construction of medical service facilities, parking lots and landscaped areas for the facilities. The purpose of the project is to construct medical support facilities adjacent to the Monroe Surgical Hospital. The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The work would involve construction on a 12-acre tract of wetlands and the wetland portion of an adjoining 8-acre tract. The 12-acre tract consists of wetlands vegetated in overcup oak, nuttall oak, bitter pecan, red maple, green ash, sugarberry, and bald cypress. Unauthorized mechanized land clearing and filling were conducted on approximately 3.5 wetland acres within the 8-acre tract prior to submittal of a permit application for work on both tracts. These wetlands were vegetated in tree species similar to those on the 12-acre tract, as well as buttonbush, lizard tail, beak rush and soft rush. The two tracts are surrounded by existing and proposed residential and commercial development.

The project would include construction of medical offices, diagnostic laboratories, pharmacy, wellness, and day care facilities, and parking lots for these facilities as well as additional parking for the Monroe Surgical Hospital. A total of approximately 11,750 cubic yards of clean silt loam obtained off site would be required as fill for the construction work.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material in waters of the United States associated with the mechanized land clearing and construction of the project requires a Department of the Army Permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

State Water Quality Permit: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

Cultural Resources: An initial review indicates that the proposed project would not affect any of the sites in Ouachita Parish listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Copies of this notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, the Corps archaeologists, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to cultural resources that could result from this activity.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These

comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit

with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/main.asp>, or go directly to the Final Permit Actions web page at <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/MonthlyNotice/pnmain.asp>.

for Joyce Butler
W. Harold Lee
Team Leader
Evaluation Section



Project Location

Vicinity Map

Project Location

JOURNAL LLC

CEMVK-OD-FE JCB-200104230

10.46
0.46

PROPOSED BROADMOOR MEDICAL PARK

SCALE: 1" = 100'-0"

MEAS. S09°21'09"W 636.56'
CALL S08°55'W 633.75'

SECTION 53

SECTION 18

SECTION 19

SECTION 49

SECTION 50

SECTION 51

SECTION 52

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SECTION 103

Wetlands to be Impacted 14.57 acres



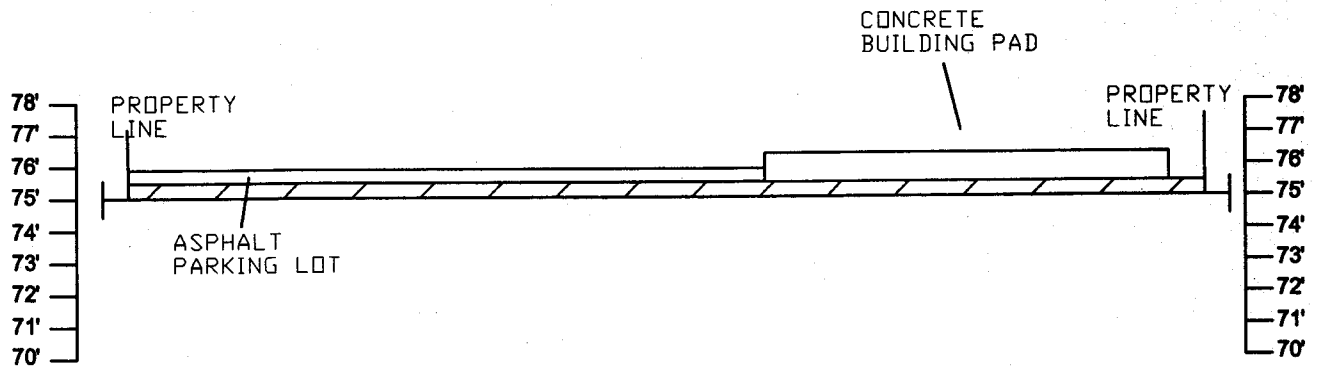
DRAWN BY: MJH
CHECKED BY: TPM
APPROVED BY: MJH
FIGURE: 3

PRJ#: 001220-112c Journal LLC
PLAN VIEW
Ouachita Parish, Louisiana

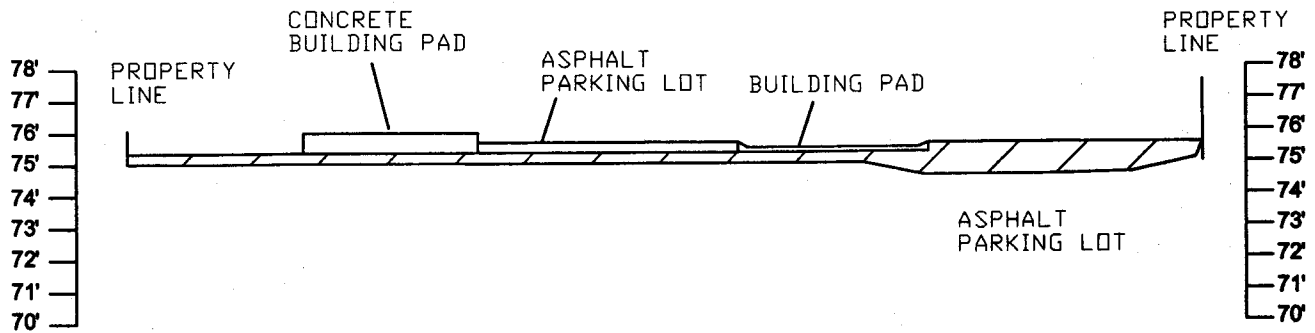
102 EAST THOMAS ST. STE 1
HAMMOND, LA 70403
PHONE: (985)429-0333

HYDRIC
Wetlands Consultants
WWW.HYDRIC.COM

SECTION A-A



SECTION B-B



HOR. SCALE NTS
VER. SCALE 1"=6.25'

FILL



102 EAST THOMAS ST. STE 1
HAMMOND, LA 70403
PHONE: (985)429-0333

WWW.HYDRIK.COM

JOURNAL LLC "MONROE, LA"
SECTION VIEW
OUACHITA PARISH, LOUISIANA

PRJT.#

001220-
111c

DRAWN BY: SJD

CHECKED BY:

APPROVED BY:

FIGURE:

REV.:

JOURNAL LLC

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